

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Riverview Village Inventory Number: CH-811
 Address: Naval Surface Warfare Center-Indian Head City: Indian Head Zip Code: 20640
 County: Charles City USGS Topographic Map: Indian Head
 Owner: United States Department of the Navy Is the property being evaluated a district? ☒ yes
 Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____
 Project: _____ Agency: United States Department of the Navy
 Site visit by MHT Staff: _____ no _____ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
 Is the property located within a historic district? _____ yes _____ no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
 NR-listed district _____ yes Eligible district _____ yes District Name: _____
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource _____ yes _____ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context _____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)
 Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible _____ yes ☒ no

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: _____ A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____ E _____ F _____ G _____ None
 Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

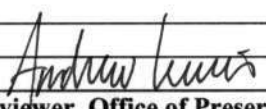
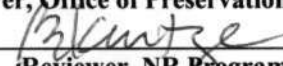
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description

Riverview Village is an apartment-style community located on Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head (NSWC-IH). The buildings are sited at the northeast boundary of the facility on an elevated landmass surrounded by a sloping grade. The Potomac River is located to the north; the facility boundary is located to the east; the Indian Head School is located to the south and open ball fields within the facility are located to the west. The ball fields are visible from the complex.

The complex is comprised of building groupings with within and surrounding a U-shaped street pattern. Separate asphalt parking areas are sited in front of or behind units and were added in the late 20th century. Also located within Riverview Village are playgrounds and picnic areas added in 1998. They are located behind units in open greenspace. Both parking lots and recreation areas were modified from the original plan when added in the late 20th century.

The buildings have rectangular plans in general and are sited around a grid form plan. Parking lots have been placed either behind the units or in the front of units forming a shallow courtyard. Parking lots are also located on the side elevations. The streets have sidewalks and mature tree plantings evenly spaced along the roadways. All the buildings have the same footprint,

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: _____ A _____ B _____ C _____ D	Considerations: _____ A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____ E _____ F _____ G _____ None
Comments: _____	
<div style="text-align: center;">  Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">1/20/05</div> Date </div>
<div style="text-align: center;">  Reviewer, NR Program </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">1/26/05</div> Date </div>

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NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 1

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which is rectangular. The apartment housing is grouped in three general configurations. Some units are stand-alone, while others are grouped in two or three. Those that are grouped in two are attached at corners in a staggered configuration or an L-shape. Those grouped in three are organized in that the central unit projects from the two on the ends, and they are attached on opposite corners.

The buildings are concrete-block construction and clad in brick veneer and vinyl siding. Each building is three-stories crowned with a side-gable roof, and intersecting gables on the ends of the façade and rear elevation, and at the central entrance. The two lower stories are brick veneer and the third story is clad in vinyl siding, along with the intersecting gables. Windows punctuate each elevation and are comprised of groupings of single, double and triple windows. Some are casement and others are double-hung sash. All have been replaced.

Of the 29 units remaining, 5 are combined into a three-part grouping, 2 are combined into a two-part grouping, and 10 are single units. The three-part units are located at the west end of the complex and the remaining two-part units are located at the northwest corner. One-part units dominate the east end.

The interiors of the units are simple in form and articulation. The hallways have exposed concrete walls, metal stairs with metal railings, and concrete floors. In some units the flooring in the vestibule is terrazzo. The door surrounds to the units are simple metal with corresponding metal doors. The entrance to the halls is either characterized by a plate glass door with metal frame or modern replacement door.

Each unit is a combination of original adjacent units. There were originally four units per floor, which have been consolidated to two units. The units on the façade and the units on the rear elevation have been combined. Each unit has a modernized kitchen, small vestibule that is more like a shortened hall, utility space (formed from the separate unit's kitchen), living room, dining room with built in bookcase, hall, two lavatories, and four bedrooms. The interiors of the original units' bedrooms have been modified to increase closet size and reorientation of access to the rooms from the hall. Finishes on the walls and ceiling have been replaced with drywall, and the flooring is wall-to-wall carpet or rolled vinyl flooring. The only woodwork on the interior is a minimal baseboard and door and window surrounds. Heating is baseboard and window units provide air-conditioning. The windows have been replaced, and interior doors have been replaced with 6-panel, hollow plywood doors.

Resource Inventory

Apartment House 1, 2 and 3

Apartment House 4 (Facility 963)

Apartment Houses 6 and 7 (Facilities 965 and 966)

Apartment House 8 (Facility 967)

Apartment Houses 9, 10 and 11 (Facilities 971, 972, and 973)

Apartment Houses 12, 13 and 14 (Facilities 974, 975, and 976)

Apartment Houses 15 and 16 (Facilities 977 and 978)

Apartment House 19 (Facility 979)

Apartment Houses 24, 25 and 26 (Facilities 984, 985 and 986)

Apartment Houses 27, 28 and 29 (Facility 987, 988, and 989)

Apartment House 30 (Facility 996)

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Apartment House 32 (Facility 998)

Apartment House 33 (Facility 993)

Apartment House 35 (Facility 995)

Apartment House 36 (Facility 990)

Apartment House 38 (Facility 992)

Apartment House 39 (Facility 999)

4 Playgrounds (Facilities PG03, PG04, PG05 and PG10)

5 Picnic Areas (Facilities 1953, 1966, 1967, 1969, and 1970)

14 Dumpster Enclosures (Facilities 3051, 3052, 3053, 3054, 3055, 3056, 3057, 3058, 3059, 3060, 301, 3062, 3063, and 3064)

Historical Statement

The apartment units were constructed in 1954 on NSWC-IH. NSWC-IH provides technical support for weapons system assigned to the facility. In addition, it is a research and development facility for engineering and manufacturing technology. Earlier housing on the facility dates to the turn of the 20th century within an eligible historic district located farther west near the industrial area of the facility. During World War II additional housing units were needed on the facility due to the wartime build-up as Indian Head was equipped to produce explosives. 350 units of housing were constructed at that time and have subsequently been sold and removed from the facility or demolished.

The post-World War II period saw an immediate drop of work on the facility. The Cold War brought about a resurgence of the military build-up. With Indian Head mission related to propellants and explosives, the facility's activity increased during the Cold War. The Korean War contributed to the increase in activity on the facility and triggered additional construction. During the 1950s over 100 new buildings were erected and funds were allocated to update facilities to meet industrial and technological modernization.

As a part of the increased activity at Indian Head, apartment housing was constructed at the northeast boundary away from the industrial area. Riverview Village was constructed with approximately 700 units to house civilian workers employed on the facility. The construction was typical of mid-20th century economical construction methods. The buildings are simple in form with a central hall flanked by units. The stairs are utilitarian and walls unadorned concrete block. The units are simple in plan with two bedrooms, lavatory, small kitchen, and dining/living space.

Utilitarian design had become common in the 1950s and 1960s to house the urban poor through the housing acts of the mid-20th century. The need for adequate housing led to the demolition of substandard housing and the construction of modern units that could accommodate small families. In lower density areas that had adequate landmass, lower scale units, which eliminated the need for elevators, were constructed in a garden-style housing plan. The units were small and did not exhibit much articulation. In higher density urban centers, high-rise public housing was constructed using similar techniques applied to those of smaller scale.

Like temporary World War II housing, these buildings employed similar ideas of size. More permanent in building construction materials, they were much improved over housing constructed for the World War II build-up. The building type is seen on many military facilities and within communities dating to the same period. It employed many of the garden city movement ideals of open space, playgrounds and compartmentalized parking areas.

In the 1960s, the need for housing on the facility decreased and the World War II era housing was excessed. In addition, the existing housing did not meet the unit size requirement for growing families of the post-World War II era. This precipitated

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NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

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the combination of units within the same floor enlarging the housing unit from 2 bedrooms and one lavatory, to four bedrooms and 2 lavatories. In addition, this allowed for the creation of a separate living space and dining space. The second kitchen was converted to a utility space to house laundry facilities. Within the halls the original doors for the absorbed unit remains in some cases reflecting the original configuration of the interior.

Changes in mission in the last half of the 20th century decreased the number of units required for on-base housing. Buildings were removed within Riverview Village in some areas. In addition modernization of the units was a priority at the end of the 20th century. Modernization included the addition of vinyl siding and on some buildings the installation of a brick entryway projecting from the façade. Also the windows and most doors (both interior and exterior) were replaced.

The overall integrity of the units is low with the combination of the interior units and new materials. The exterior integrity is also low as there is replacement exterior treatment and the addition of entrances that are not in keeping with the minimal articulation of the buildings. The plan of the community is intact, but with unit removal the overall sense of the area is diminished. This complex was considered under Criterion A for its association with events related to the addition of military housing during the Cold War period and Criterion C for its association with apartment planning of the same period. After the evaluation of the architectural and historic elements related with the property, it is not recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

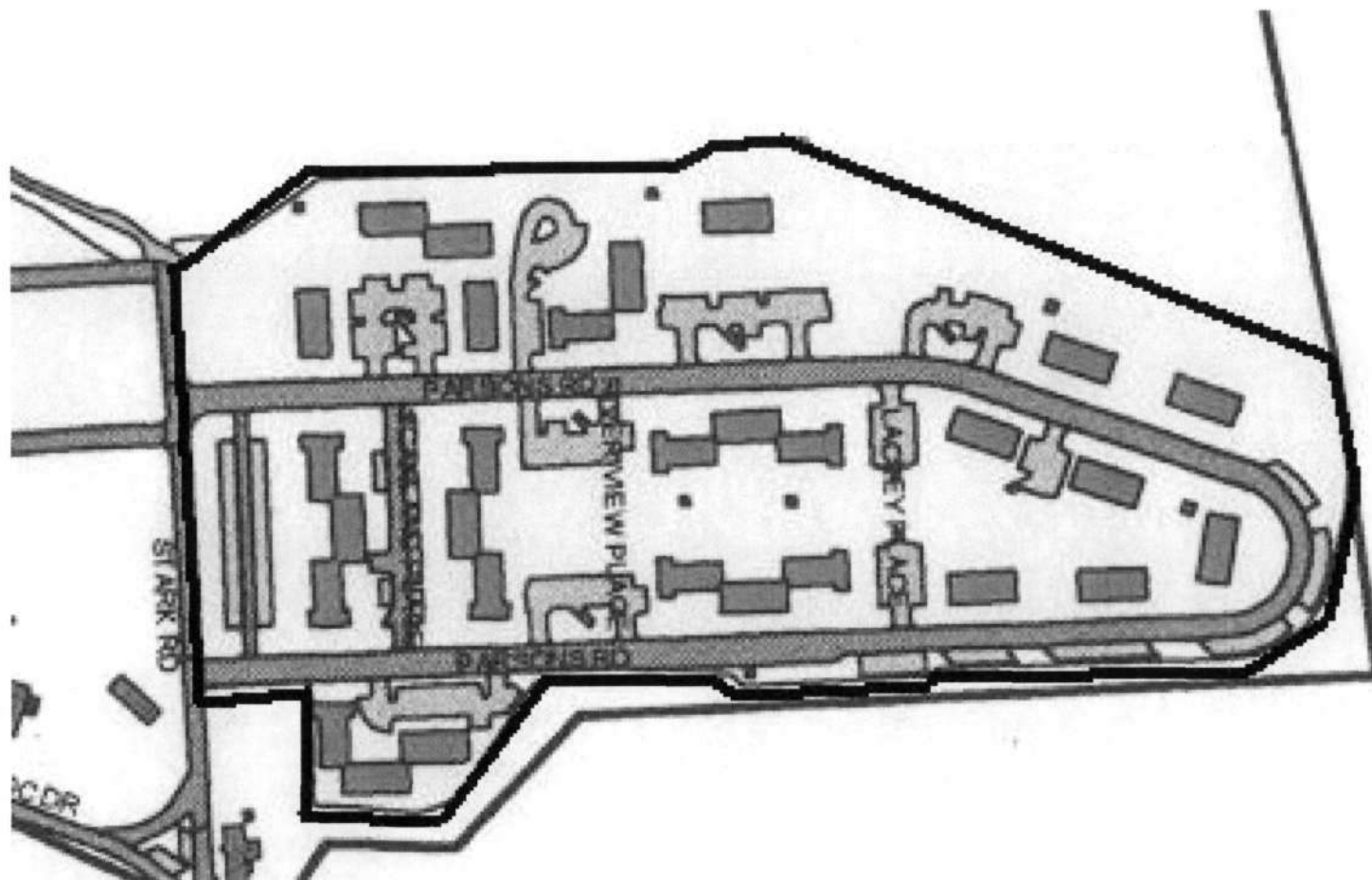
Prepared by:

Kimble A. David

Date Prepared: 1/17/2005

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
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Continuation Sheet No. 4



Riverview Village

Naval Surface Warfare Center – Indian Head

Portion showing Riverview Village

Base Map

2003

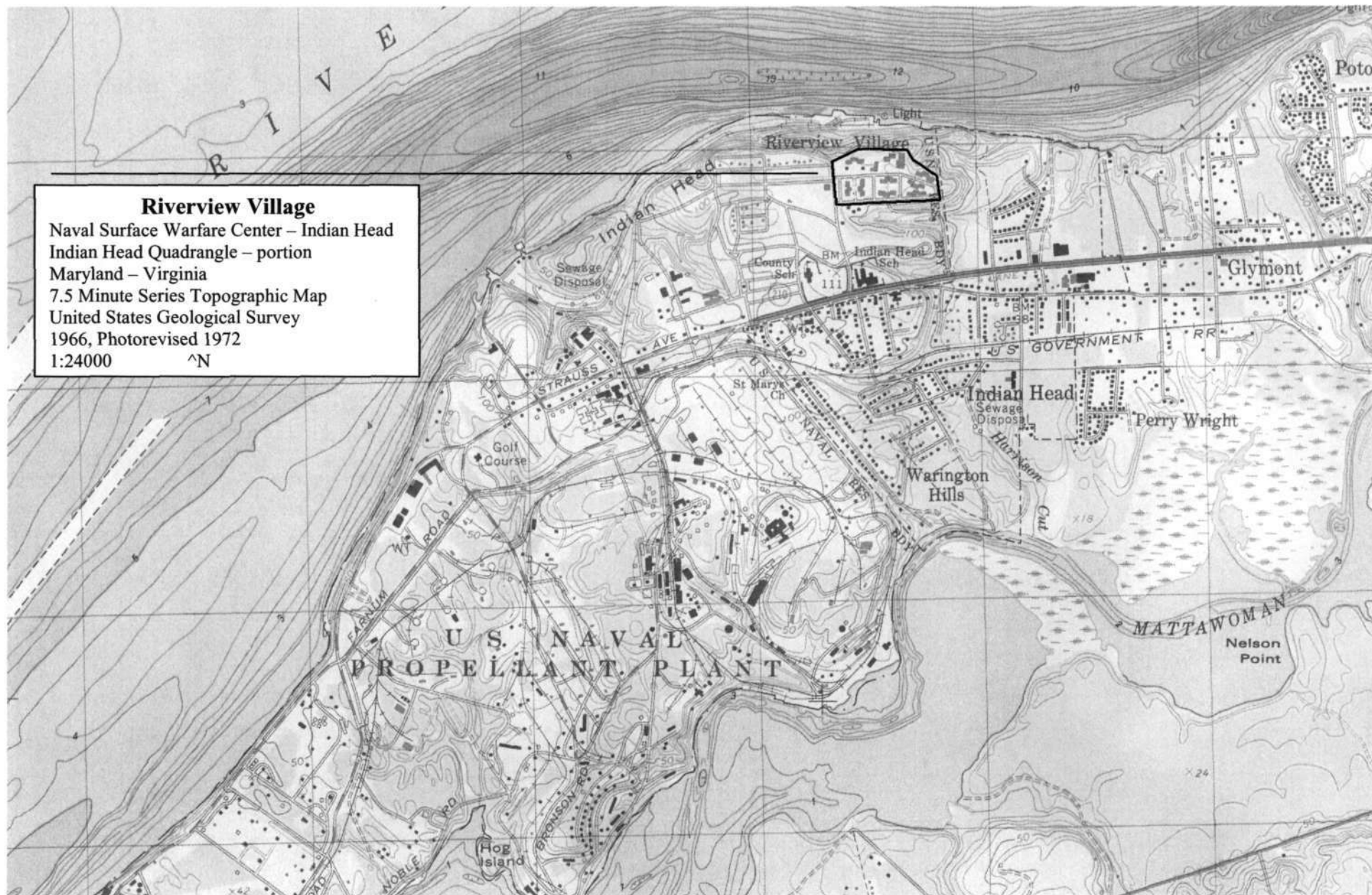
Not to Scale

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 5



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CH-811
RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
VIEW EAST ON
PARSONS RD,
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY
VIEW SE AT PARSONS ROAD
THROUGH COMPLEX

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WARFARE CENTER -

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

VIEW SOUTH TO

RIVERVIEW PLACE

JUNE 2003



RIVERVIEW VILLAGE CH-811
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDINGS 1 & 2
EAST FACADE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 2
EAST FACADE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDINGS 1, 2 & 3
NW OBLIQUE, WEST
ELEVATION RAKING VIEW

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WAREHOUSE CENTER -

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDINGS 2 & 3

EAST CASCADE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY
COUNTY

APARTMENT
BUILDING 3

INTERIOR -
STAIRWELL

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 4
EAST FACADE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 4
INTERIOR- LIVING ROOM,
LOOKING WEST TO
DINING ROOM
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDINGS 617
SW OBLIQUE
JUNE 2003

RESIDENT PARKING
ONLY
VEHICLES
TOWED AT
OWNERS
RISK & FINE



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 8
WEST FACADE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 9
NW OBUQUE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 10
WEST FACADE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 11
WEST FACADE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDINGS 12, 13 & 14
NW OBUQUE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDINGS 12, 13, 14

NE OBUQUE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDINGS 15 & 16
SE OBlique
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDINGS 15916
NW OBLIQUE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 19
SW OBLIQUE
JUNE 2003



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INTERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 24
NORTH FACADE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WARFARE CENTER-

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDING 25

NORTH FACADE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDINGS 25, 26

NORTH FACADE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WARFARE CENTER-

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDING 26

NORTH FACADE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE

WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 27

SE OBUQUE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDINGS 27, 28, 29

SW OBLIQUE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDINGS 27, 28, 29

SE OBLIQUE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER-
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 30
SOUTH FACADE
JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 32
SOUTH FACADE
JUNE 2003



CH-811

RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WAREHOUSE CENTER -

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDING 33

NW OBLIQUE

JUNE 2003



CH-811

RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WARFARE CENTER-

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDING 35

NW OBUQUE

JUNE 2003



CH-811

RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WARFARE CENTER -

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDING 36

SE OBUQUE

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER -
INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 38
INTERIOR - BEDROOM

JUNE 2003



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RIVERVIEW VILLAGE
NAVAL SURFACE
WARFARE CENTER—
INDIAN HEAD
CHARLES CITY COUNTY
APARTMENT BUILDING 38
SW OBLIQUE
JUNE 2003



CH-811

RIVERVIEW VILLAGE

NAVAL SURFACE

WARFARE CENTER-

INDIAN HEAD

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

APARTMENT BUILDING 39

EAST FACADE

JUNE 2003